



Margaret welcomes us to Houston

**Katy Tollway**  
HOV 2+ FREE  
5-11 AM 2-8 PM  
MON - FRI  
EZ TAG ONLY TRUCKS/TRAILERS  
3+ AXLES \$21 MAX

**EZ TAG ONLY**  
**10**  
**Katy Tollway**  
←  
**LEFT ENTRANCE**

**EZ TAG ONLY**  
**Katy Tollway**  
HOV 2+ FREE  
5-11 AM 2-8 PM  
MON - FRI  
EZ TAG ONLY TRUCKS/TRAILERS  
3+ AXLES \$21 MAX  
VDSG 90.30  
610 10.60

**FOOD**  
**EXIT 755**  
Doritos  
Doritos  
Doritos  
Doritos  
Doritos

...where the roads are big (but crowded!)



NORTH  
Sam Houston  
Tollway  
←

SOUTH  
Sam Houston  
Tollway  
→

H  
EXIT 757  
Gessner Rd  
EXIT ONLY

FOOD  
EXIT 757  
Wendy's  
McDonald's  
Burger King  
Taco Bell

...and the bridges are tall



(Even the bike trails have multi-level interchanges!)



Margaret's condo is on the 16th floor



... which has a good view of the park



... and nearby construction sites.



At least the city is (relatively) quiet at night.



Let's head out to the fairgrounds -- the rodeo is in town!



The rodeo is huge, filling several convention-center buildings.



There are horses,



cattle,

# HOUSTON Livestock Show and Rodeo



pigs



(which were auctioned off),



tractors,



and llamas.



Llamas?!



Yes, llamas.



Little chicks



... by the "petting zoo" area.



(But you don't want to try to pet this one!)



I tried on a hat, but it was too small.



LIVESTOCK SHOW

SHOPPING · DINING

WESTERN HERITAGE  
ENTERTAINMENT  
EDUCATION  
AGRICULTURE

SINCE  
1932

SHERIFF

SHERIFF

And now it's time to make a quick get-away from the rodeo!

Washington on the Brazos  
• 1836 •

*The Birthplace of Texas*



Washington was a raw, new town when delegates from all over Texas crowded in for the March 1836 Convention. Santa Anna's army had moved into San Antonio de Bexar, and the Alamo was under siege. War was at hand and the delegates had to act.

Road trip! Let's go look for wildflowers!



Little kid romping thru the blue bonnets.







A scenic view of a river or lake, likely in a park or natural area. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding greenery and trees. In the foreground, a brown sign with yellow text is mounted on a wooden post. The sign reads "CAUTION: ALLIGATORS DO NOT FEED". The sign is positioned near a concrete barrier that runs along the edge of the water. The background shows a lush green landscape with trees and a clear blue sky.

CAUTION: ALLIGATORS  
DO NOT FEED

Please don't feed the alligators.

# GLISSMANN DRUG STORE



Antiques and a museum in Brenham TX,



... where you can get Blue Bell ice-cream floats.



Let's bike Houston's scenic "White Oak Bayou greenway trail"



Liv bikes past a field of blue bonnets



Blue bonnets and other wildflowers.



Visit Houston's Hermann Park



ducks



more ducks



and coots and egrets









It can get tiring walking around the park!



Road trip! Let's go see Margaret's lake house in Livingston!



View from the lake house.



Laly and the kids join us.



**They're building a treehouse at the lake house.**



The kids like hunting for Easter eggs.





Trying to catch critters in the lake.



**Adrian caught a fish!**



**DANGER**  
BEWARE OF  
ALLIGATORS



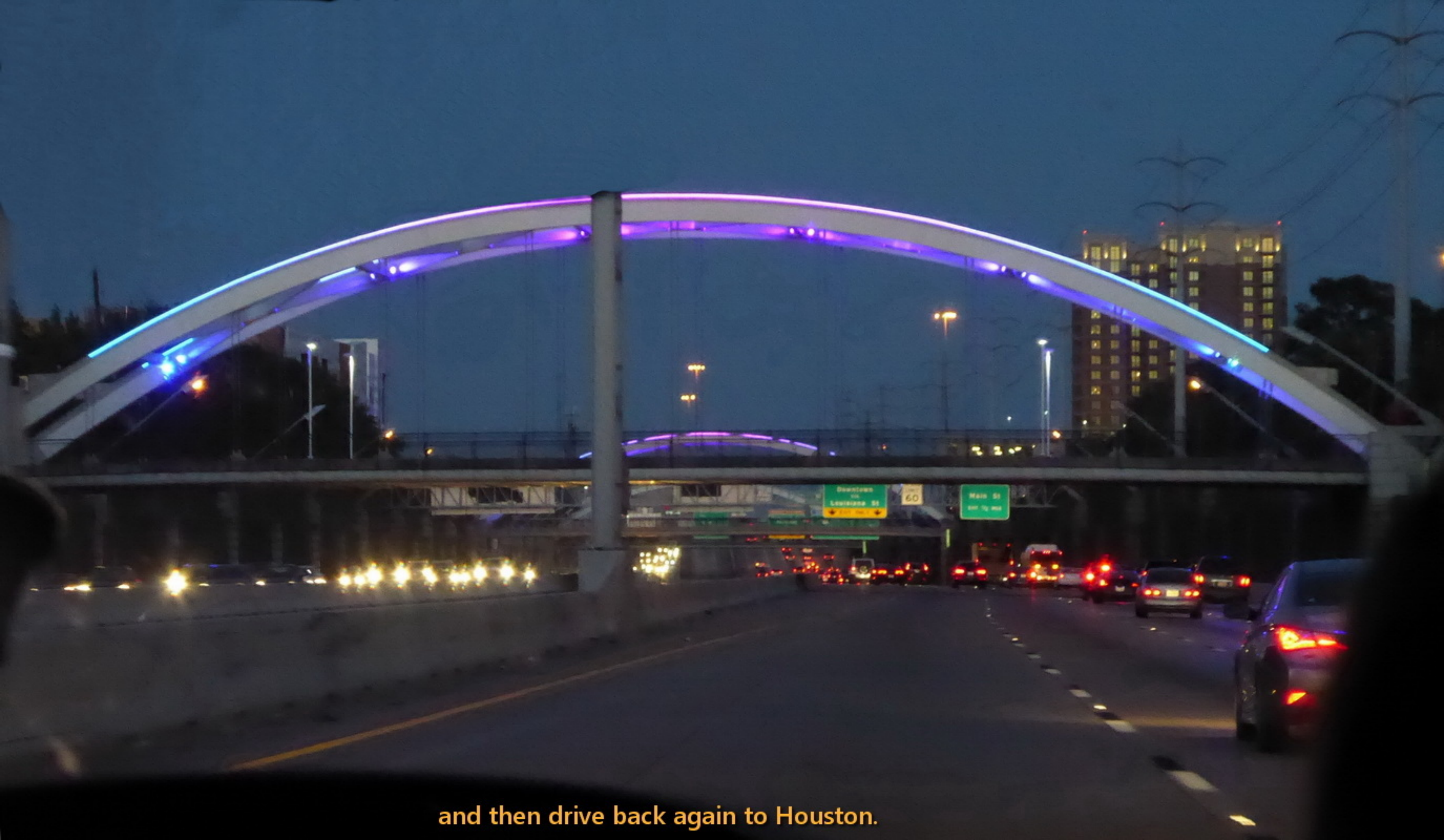
**Wait, what did that sign say? Something about alligators?**



Isabella in the lake.



**Margaret stays dry and visits neighbor-friend Barbara**



and then drive back again to Houston.



And then another road trip: Galveston!



Galveston is kept alive by tourists from the cruise ships.



(It's also a great place to park oil-drilling platforms.)



Lunch on the bay.



We've never gone on one of those horse-drawn carriage-ride tours: why not go now?



Get to tour downtown Galveston at a slower pace.



Downtown Galveston



Galveston is famous for its old Victorians





ONE  
WAY  
→



The newer houses are safer from hurricane floods.



Galveston's ocean beach.



... and go past the Pleasure Pier on the way back out of town.



Margaret's condo is walking distance to the Art Museum





A special exhibit of Ron Mueck sculptures...







... a great place for a "selfie"!



Ben & Laly's home in Houston



... although the truck is big enough to live in!



**Ben has his hands full!**



Dinner and a dance.



And now it's time for us to go. Bye!



After all the good weather, it rains when we're ready to leave.



**A one-hour weather delay!**



Houston, where "X" marks the spot! Bye!